



### Tool Carrier

The handywoman shown is wearing a spinoff Tool Kaddy manufactured by GC Electronics, a division of Wallace Murray, Inc., Rockford, Illinois. The tool organizer accommodates a selection of hand tools on a waist or thigh belt or, alternatively, on wall, work bench or car trunk mountings. The Tool Kaddy is widely used by industrial maintenance personnel, TV technicians, mechanics, artists, draftsmen, hobbyists and homeowners. Its innovative feature is visible in the closeup photo: rows of flexible vinyl "fingers," like the bristles of a hairbrush, which mesh together to hold the tool securely in place yet allow easy insertion or withdrawal.

The tool carrier was originally designed under NASA contract — by Martin Marietta Corporation's Denver (Colorado) Division — for use by Apollo and Skylab astronauts performing minor repair tasks. The gripping fingers feature was incorporated to prevent tools from "floating" out of their slots in the weightless environment of space. NASA granted Martin Marietta-Denver a patent waiver for commercialization of the tool carrier and Martin Marietta subsequently licensed production rights to GC Electronics.

